in ROHIL are 2953 tonnes (U_3O_8). The details of State-wise distribution of uranium resoruces are as furnished below:

State	Uranium Resources Tonnes (U_3O_8)
Jharkhand	47,809
Meghalaya	17,152
Andhra Pradesh	27,870
Chhattisgarh	2,968
Karnataka	3,818
Rajasthan	4,113

[1 Tone of U_3O_8 = 0.848 Tonnes of uranium metal]

(c) The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has initiated steps to construct more uranium mines and plants in different parts of the country to fuel nuclear power plants. Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, Hyderabad, a constituent unit of DAE, has intensified uranium exploration activities many fold for augmentation of additional uranium resources.

Increasing power generation with atomic fuels

264. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase power generation with atomic fuels;

(b) if so, the proposed investment requirement for per MW Unit of atomic energy;

(c) whether Government undertook any cost benefit analysis of atomic power generation in comparison with that of coal, hydro, naphtha and other such fuels;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not whether Government would undertake such an exercise before finalizing investment proposals for atomic power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Capital investment requirement is indicated in terms of installed capacity which is Rs. 5.5 crore per MWe at 2006-07 prices.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The capital costs of Nuclear Power Stations are 25 to 30% higher than that of coal fired plants while the fuelling costs for Nuclear Power Stations are lower. At about 800 km. from coal pitheads nuclear power generation costs are competitive with coal based thermal power generation in view of the additional cost for transporting coal. The cost of generation of nuclear power is comparatively cheaper than that of naphtha and gas based power. Hydro electric power being locaiton specific cannot be compared.

(e) Cost benefit analysis in respect of specific proposals is undertaken before investment decisions are made.

Increasing power generation through NPC

265. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are expecting to increase power generation with atomic fuels;

(b) if so, the investment requirement according to the generation target;

(c) whether Government are increasing the investment through Nuclear Power Corporation; and

(d) if not, the plants contemplated to meet the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The current nuclear power capacity of 3900 MWe will increase to 7280 MWe on completion of the projects under construction. The projects which are planned to be taken up in the XI Plan, on completion, will further add 15900 MWe to the capacity in the XII Plan.